

P23561.A02



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Masami SHIRAI et al.

Group Art Unit : 2872

Serial No : 10/619,499

Examiner : Unknown

Filed : July 16, 2003

For : OBSERVATION OPTICAL DEVICE

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement filed on October 16, 2003 in the U.S.

Patent and Trademark Office, Applicants submit herewith a copy of a communication from the United Kingdom Patent Office dated January 14, 2004, enclosing results of a search conducted by the United Kingdom Patent Office, with respect to counterpart U.K. patent application No. GB 0317024.8, in which the United Kingdom Patent Examiner cited the following documents:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. H10-0239735, which published on September 11, 1998, together with an English language Abstract of the same;

U.S. Patent No. 3,661,064 to NORRIS, which issued on May 9, 1972; and

U.S. Patent No. 4,067,027 to YAMAZAKI, which issued on January 3, 1978. This document, was previously cited in the IDS filed October 16, 2003. Nevertheless, the Examiner is invited to review the United Kingdom Examiner's comments with respect thereto.

P23561.A02

The category of relevance, pertinent portions, and claims to which each document is relevant, as ascertained by the United Kingdom Examiner applying United Kingdom rules to the United Kingdom claims are set forth in the United Kingdom Search report.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patents are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the newly cited documents. A copy of the Japanese patent document is attached and all of the documents have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto along with a copy of the United Kingdom Office Action. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not yet issued in the instant application, and thus, no fee is necessary to ensure consideration of this statement. However, if an Office Action has issued and is crossing in the mail with this statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0089 any fee necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted materials.

P23561.A02

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Masami SHIRAI

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February 12, 2004
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[illegible][illegible]

		1	English language Abstract JP NO. H10-0239735.

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.